



**Chairman**  
John Takach

**Vice-Chairman**  
John Chandler

**Secretary**  
Rhonda Villanova

STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND  
INCORPORATED 1786

# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

## Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187  
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187



RECEIVED 12/16/2019  
AT 8:52 AM/PM  
DIANE H. MCKEEGAN  
ELLINGTON TOWN CLERK

### Members

Joe Boucher  
Ted C. Graziani  
Dennis Kayhart  
Sara Landon  
Cheryl Samborski  
Christian Sauer  
Bruce Warkentin

**Student Representative**  
Steven Villanova

December 10, 2019

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

**In attendance:** Dennis Kayhart, Christian Sauer, Rhonda Villanova, Cheryl Samborski, John Takach, Steven Villanova, Bruce Warkentin

### Pledge of Allegiance

**Approval of last meeting minutes:** Chris 1st, Cheryl 2<sup>nd</sup>

**New business:** WAA wreath count is approximately 373. Cheryl talked to Tim Webb at Public Works. He said they were willing to receive the wreaths there; they just needed to know ahead of time so they can plan where to put them. The question that needs to be answered is whether DPW can deliver the wreaths to the cemetery and cover them with tarps like last year (as noted by Chris).

John T. mentioned that he didn't know how many Boy Scouts were available to help place wreaths this year because it was a camping weekend.

The request for trumpet players to play TAPS wasn't sent out. Steven volunteered to ask Mr. Delassus if there were two players available as in previous years.

American Legion will be bringing the color guard.

No one has received a response, as far as we know, from State Senator Champagne or State Representative Anwar regarding attending the WAA ceremony on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

It was determined that whomever can help spread out the boxes and set up canopies should arrive by about 11:00 a.m.

Cheryl mentioned that chairs were not on our task list. The chairs have been there in the past, but we as a committee don't know who arranges for them to be there. John T. will send a note to Pete Hany Jr. to ask if they (the Fire Department) have placed the chairs in the past.

John T will bring a 10x10 canopy – will also ask Pete Hany Jr. whether he has another canopy. Cheryl may have a canopy as well.

Regarding the WAA website, citing comments from Bruce and others, it has been determined a specific link is necessary to get credit w/buy 2 get 1 free. The site is user unfriendly. Efforts were made via a change form to add the organization code to get the 1 free, but with limited success. Bruce spoke with Trish Gardner (re: WAA website) - people couldn't check the group code after checking the cemetery. The change order form needs to be filled out for each order that didn't include the group code (per Trish). The link should have been directly to the page with the group code:

<https://wreathsacrossamerica.org/CT0039>

The committee followed up the discussion about the WAA website with thoughts on future options versus continuing the WAA ceremony. The discussion included the cost of publicizing and clean-up compared to just buying several wreaths representing each military branch and one larger one for the memorial at the cemetery; the number of volunteers needed, coordinating efforts with DPW, etc...

Bruce confirmed the Ellington Quarterly newsletter is no longer in print. Rhonda stated that the North Central News came too late for some people to order wreaths for this year. Thanksgiving was late this year, which backed into the order deadline. John T. suggested we continue the discussion of obstacles and workarounds next year.

Rhonda will bring a couple copies of the speech for the ceremony.

Bruce will check with WAA contact for wreath drop-off information, the form was filled out with Public Works - Tim Webb as contact for delivery. If any change needs to be made, it should be made in January.

**Motion to adjourn:** Rhonda 1st; Cheryl 2<sup>nd</sup>

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

**Next mtg:** tentatively scheduled for January 28, 2020, Town Hall Meeting Room, 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

Rhonda Villanova

Rhonda  
Villanova

Digitally signed by Rhonda Villanova  
DN: cn=Rhonda Villanova, o=Ad Hoc  
Patrol Committee, ou=Secretary,  
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Date: 2019.12.12 22:28:56 -0500